

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Patent Application of |) | |
| |) | |
| Donald F. BELZ et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 3651 |
| |) | |
| Application No.: Unassigned |) | Examiner: James R. Bidwell |
| |) | |
| Filed: October 6, 2003 |) | Confirmation No.: N/A |
| |) | |
| For: SPIRAL CONVEYOR APPARATUS |) | |
| WITH AUTOMATIC FLOW CONTROL |) | |

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

Copies of the listed documents were previously submitted in one or more of prior Serial No. 10/100,183, filed on March 19, 2002; No. 09/775,666, filed on February 5, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,398,014; Serial No. 09/586,975, filed June 5, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,199,677; Serial No. 09/274,314, filed March 23, 1999, now abandoned, and/or Serial No. 08/914,424, filed August 19, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,901,827, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the listed documents previously submitted and/or made of record are not included.

A copy of each of the following documents is enclosed:

6,298,971 B2, BELZ et al. issued 10-09-2001;
6,398,014 B2, BELZ et al. issued 06-04-2002;
2002/0195320 A1, BELZ et al. published 12-26-2002.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: October 6, 2003

By: 

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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

ATTORNEY'S DKT No.

005410-015

APPLICATION No.

Unassigned

APPLICANT

Donald F. BELZ et al.

FILING DATE

October 6, 2003

GROUP

3651

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Kind Code (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY) |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
|----------------------|---|
| | Carter Control Spiral Conveyor Sale; Proposal 95C0021-1 with associated drawings. |
| | Sparks Microroller® Technical Data, Sparks Belting Company, Grand Rapids, MI. |
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|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | ATTORNEY'S DKT No. 005410-015 | APPLICATION No. Unassigned |
| | APPLICANT Donald F. BELZ et al. | |
| | FILING DATE October 6, 2003 | GROUP 3651 |
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| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Kind Code (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY) |
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|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Kind Code (if known) | Country | Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY) | Translation Yes No |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials | Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
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|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

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